GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1736
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
ENVIRONMENTAL REFUGEES
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the global warming and consequent rise in the sea level is posing threat to the population creating environmental refugees in Sunderbans as reported in The Hindu dated 15 September, 2008;

(b) if so, the details of the facts reported therein; and

(c) the effective measures taken or being taken by the Government to face the challenges of global warming and its consequences?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a)& (b) Global warming and consequent adverse impacts including projected rise in the sea levels is considered as an additional stress and concern to natural ecosystem including Sunderbans.This soil erosion and subsidence are posing risks to sea facing island.

(c) The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) was released by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008. The National Action plan outlines eight missions in specific areas of Solar, Enhanced Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Habitat, Water, Sustaining the Himalayan Eco-system, Green India, Sustainable Agriculture and Strategic knowledge for Climate Change.The National Mission for sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem is aimed at evolving management measures for sustaining and safeguarding the Himalayan glacier and mountain eco-system.

An Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India has been set-up to study the impacts and adaptation to Climate Change.